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by any considerations and thus avoid the criticism which one hon. Member had made that a great deal of patronage was being shown by the Government in the matter of recruitment to these posts?"

THE HON. SRI K. CHANDRAMOULI:—"I can assure the hon. Member that so far no patronage has been shown to anybody in this matter."

Private schools known as Gurukulas.

* 10 *Q.*—SRI B. BHIMA RAO (on behalf of Sri D. Manjaya Hegde): Will the Hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that there are private schools in this Province, such as Gurukulas, without being recognized and subsidized by the Government;

(*b*) whether the students of such schools are eligible for the S.S.L.C. and other examinations of that standard; and

(*c*) what are the conditions governing the admission of such students to such examinations?

THE HON. SRI T. S. AVINASHILINGAM CHETTIYAR:—
"(*a*) Yes.

"(*b*) & (*c*) Students appearing for the S.S.L.C. and European School-Leaving Certificate Examinations should appear for the first time only through a recognized school. Admission to Matriculation Examinations is governed by the rules framed by the University and the Syndicate has got power to exempt candidates from producing attendance certificates under certain conditions."

Lower Subordinate Service of the Agricultural Department.

* 11 *Q.*—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether recruitment to the lower subordinate service of the Agricultural Department has been abolished;

(*b*) the number of those in that service at present;

(*c*) whether any distinction is observed with regard to the status and the emoluments between the lower subordinate service and the upper subordinate service;

(*d*) whether it is a fact that the Government ordered some years ago that the lower subordinate service should be gradually absorbed into the upper subordinate service cadre and, if so, how many have so far been absorbed and how many still remain unabsorbed and what the principles governing such absorption are;

(*e*) whether the duties performed by the officers of the lower subordinate and the upper subordinate services are the same and are equally onerous;

(*f*) whether there is any ban imposed in regard to the promotion of men in the lower subordinate service to the gazetted ranks; and

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(g) whether there is any proposal to absorb immediately the personnel of lower subordinate service and equalize their status, emoluments, etc., to that of the personnel of the upper subordinate service?

THE HON. SRI K. MADHAVA MENON :—" (a) The answer is in the affirmative.

" (b) The number is forty-three.

" (c) Yes. The distinction in designation and emoluments observed in regard to Officers in the Upper and Lower Subordinate Services is shown in the statement [a] placed on the table.

" (d) In 1942, the Government sanctioned the creation of permanent posts of Upper Subordinates not exceeding three every year in lieu of three posts of Lower Subordinates rendered vacant consequent on the promotion of deserving Lower Subordinates of over 20 years' service to the Upper Subordinate cadre until all such Lower Subordinates are absorbed. In making these promotions, the principle enunciated by Government, that such promotions should be from deserving Lower Subordinates who have put in over 20 years of service, has been followed. As stated in reply to clause (b) above, there are now 43 Lower Subordinates who remain to be absorbed.

" (e) The duties performed by the Officers of both cadres are identical, but when, with reference to any particular station (e.g., headquarters station) or work (e.g., Research, teaching, etc.), the duties are considered more onerous, an Upper Subordinate is generally preferred in view of his superior qualifications.

" (f) Lower Subordinates should first be promoted as Upper Subordinates before they can aspire for promotion to Gazetted rank provided they possess the necessary qualifications. However, in 1944 the rules were amended to render them eligible for promotion to Gazetted rank in certain categories of the Madras Agricultural Service during the continuance of the War and for a period of one year thereafter.

" (g) The Director of Agriculture has submitted proposals for the absorption of 39 Lower Subordinates as Upper Subordinates. They are under the consideration of Government."

Assessment on dry lands in Malabar and South Kanara districts.

* 12 Q.—SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO: Will the Hon. the Minister for Land Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether it is a fact that dry lands in Malabar and South Kanara included in holdings though not cultivated are assessed and charged;

(b) whether the Marjoribanks Committee (1937) recommended that such assessment and charge should not be made unless and until the land is cultivated;

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[a] Printed as Appendix II on page 53 infra.